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# KANSAS MAMMALIA.

By Professor M. V. B. Knox, of Baker University.

## FELIDÆ.

1. Felis concolor Linn.-American Panther. A specimen taken about nine years ago at Valley Falls, by Mr. Whitman, and identified by him. Probably only a transient visitor. Now and then known as crossing different parts of the State.

Lynx rufus Raf.—Bay Lynx. Wild Cat.\* Quite common in timber in all parts of the State.

## CANIDÆ.

3. Canis lupus Aud. and Bach.—Gray or Timber Wolf.\*—Not uncommon in all parts of the State. Many are taken on the plains every winter for their splendid fur that is used for muffling robes.

4. C. latrans Say.—Coyote. Prairie Wolf.\* Very destructive to domestic fowls. This and C. lupus seem to be getting more common in older

parts of the State.

5. Vulpes fulvus Desm.—Red Fox. Common in all parts of the State.

6. V. velox Say.—Kit Fox. Swift. Rare. 7. V. Virginianus Rich.—Gray Fox. Rarer than the Red Fox. One taken near Baldwin, November, 1874, by John Griffith.

#### BASSARIDÆ.

8. Bassaris astuta Licht.—Texas Civet Cat. Allen. Rare in western parts of the State.

# MUSTELIDÆ.

9. Mephitis mephitica Shaw.—Common Skunk.\* Frequent.

- 10. M. bicolor Gray.-Little Striped Skunk. Polecat.\* More frequent than the common Skunk. A pest to farmers. Said, however, by Mr. Joseph Savage, of Lawrence, to enter the burrows of the Pouched Gopher, and to destroy them. Also, it is well established that they destroy rats about
- 11. Putorius noveboracensis DeKay.—White Weasel.\* Occasional. Winter coat does not always become white in this State.

12. P. vison Forster.—Common Mink. Frequent about the streams.

- 13. P. nigrescens Aud. and Bach.-Little Black Mink. Rare. Specimen reported in Baird, Report, p. 180, as taken by Lt. D. N. Couch, Fort Leavenworth.
- 14. Lutra Canadensis Sab.—Otter. Rare. Found in north parts of the State.
  - 15. Taxidea Americana Schreb.—Badger.\* Occasional.

#### URSIDÆ.

16. Ursus Americanus Pallas.-Black Bear. Occasional in timber in central parts of State.

# PROCYONIDÆ.

17. Procyon lotor Linn.—Raccoon.\* Common.

<sup>\*</sup> Specimens marked \* in Baker University Cabinet.

#### BOVIDÆ.

18. Bison Americanus Gm.—Buffalo. American Bison. Vast numbers roam over the western parts of the State, migrating northward in the spring and southward beyond the Arkansas river in the autumn. They are being slaughtered by the ten thousand annually, for their hides, meat, bones, and the sport of killing them. Should not legislation put a stop to this wholesale destruction?

# EQUIDÆ.

19. Equus caballus Linn.-Wild Horse. Adventitious from Europe. Considerable herds are seen in the west part of the State, especially south-

ward, along the Arkansas River region.

The manner in which these are captured by a man living near Osborn, is this: He goes to the region of the divide between the Platte and the Arkansas rivers, where the wild horses seem inclined to spend the summer. With a team and extra saddle horse, he starts a troop of wild horses, pursuing them, only walking his team, but never permitting the wild horses to stop for a moment. At night he does not camp till after dark, when he feeds his team well on substantial food brought with him, while the tired wild horses rest and wait till morning to feed. But by daylight he has his team well fed and rested, ready to start the hungry herd on its useless flight. By the fourth day the wild horses are worn, hungry and weak, when he takes his saddle horse, reserved for this time, and easily lassoes the wild ones, returning home with the rich results of his strange chase.

From reliable information gathered the past summer in the southwest, I find that the wild horse breeds in Kansas, thus entitling it to a place in our list of mammalia. Not unfrequently when crossing the plains in the early part of the season, the traveler's camp is approached by a troop of wild horses. In well established instances mares have been coaxed from the camp of the traveler, and taking to flight with their new wild lord, have joined his already considerable seraglio, and have been wholly lost, probably becoming veritable wild horses. Certain other domesticated animals at times show a decided inclination to take again to their wild habits.

#### CERVIDÆ.

- 20. Cervus Canadensis Erxl.—Elk. Quite common in the west parts of the State.
- 21. C. macrotis Say.—Mule Deer. Allen. "More or less common along the wooded portions of the streams, especially on the Smoky and the Paradise."
- 22. C. Virginianus Bodd.—Virginia Deer. Frequent in large bodies of timber in different parts of the State.

## ANTILOCAPRIDÆ.

23. Antilocapra Americana Ord.—Pronghorn. Antelope. In great numbers on the western plains, in herds of ten or twenty. The young are easily tamed.

## VESPERTILIONIDÆ.

- 24. Lasiurus noveboracensis Tomes.—Red Bat.\* Occasional. Entering houses evenings for catching flies.
- 25. L. cinereus Allen.—Hoary Bat.\* One taken in College building, Baldwin, 1874.

<sup>\*</sup> Specimens marked \* in Baker University Cabinet.

26. --- Bat.\* Taken at Baldwin, 1874. Not yet determined.

## SORICIDÆ.

27. Blarina Carolinesis Bach.—Shrew.\* Rare.

#### MURIDÆ.

28. Jaculus Hudsonius Zimm.—Jumping Mouse. Baird. A specimen taken in the Baldwin City Nursery, of Mr. Plasket, and identified by Miss Amanda Plasket, of Cornell University, Iowa. Taken also at Lawrence, by Prof. Snow.

29. Mus musculus Linn. Common Mouse.\* Everywhere. An albino specimen was placed in our cabinet, April, 1872, by Miss Ella Deane. White

stripe on the back and sides.

30. M. decumanus Pallas.—Brown Rat.\* Ever attending man in his "Westward Ho."

31. Hesperomys leucopus var. sonoriensis Exrl.—White Footed Mouse. Allen. Found by him at Fort Hays.

32. H. Michiganensis Aud. and Bach.-Prairie Mouse. Not plenty.

33. H. leucogaster Maxim.-Missouri Mouse. Coues.

34. H. palustris Harlan.-Rice Field Mouse. Coues. Specimen iden-

tified by B. F. Goss, Neosho Falls.

- 35. Arvicola riparia var. longipilis Ord.—Meadow Mouse.\* Rare. One sent to us by Esquire Rice, Black Jack, 1875. Taken at Lawrence by Prof. Snow.
  - 36. A. austerus L. C.-Prairie Meadow Mouse. Coues.

36a. A. austerus var. cutata Cope. Coues.

37. Ochetodon humilis Aud. and Bach.—Harvest Mouse. Coues.

38. Neotoma floridana Ord.—Wood Rat.\* Common along the streams of the middle and western parts of the State. They build nests by piling up sticks and pieces of bark, to the height of two or three feet, often about the base of a tree or stump. In the middle of these piles they have a nest of dried grass and leaves.

39. Mouse.\* Taken at Coal creek, 1873, by C. K. Jones.

Not yet identified.

40. Sunaptomys Cooperii-Cooper's Lemming. Coues. Taken at Ne-

osho Falls by Col. Goss.

41. Fiber Zibethicus Cuv.-Muskrat. Now and then found along streams.

# TALPIDÆ.

42. Scalops argentatus Aud. and Bach.—Prairie Mole. Silver Mole.\* Frequenting gardens and yards, damaging bulbs, etc.

## GEOMYIDÆ.

43. Geomys bursarius Shaw.—Pouched Gopher.\* A well known pest, marking his course across fields by a line of small piles of dirt. Destruction to hedges. Said to find a deadly enemy in the Little Striped Skunk.

44. G. breviceps Baird.—Short Headed Gopher. Taken by Dr. A. W. Hammond, at Fort Riley. Specimen in Smithsonian Institute. (Baird's

Report, p. 378.)

45. Dipodomys Ordii Woodh.—Kangaroo Rat. Common in southwest parts of the State. Found at Sargent.

<sup>\*</sup> Specimens marked \* in Baker University Cabinet.

46. D. Phillippi Gray.—Kangaroo Rat. Taken at Osborn by Richard Foster. Specimen in Washburn College, Topeka.

47. Perognathus fasciatus Maxim.—Kangaroo Rat. Taken at Topeka,

Kansas, and identified by E. A. Popenoe.

48. Castor Canadensis Kuhl.—Beaver. Common along most of the large streams. Getting scarce in the eastern parts of the State. Does much damage to timber along the streams. Seldom builds dams or huts in Kansas, but lives under over-haging banks and roots.

# SCIURIDÆ.

49. Sciurus ludovicianus Custis.—Western Fox Squirrel.\* Frequent

in all heavy bodies of timber.

Of this squirrel I have secured three well marked varieties. The first is that commonly found, the back grizzled black, gray and rusty, the under parts yellowish red. The second variety is dusky. The back is reddish brown and black, the black predominating. The belly is dark rusty. The face, nose, and cheeks, are almost pure black. A heavy line of glossy black runs down the front side of all the legs. The fur is short, thick and fine. The third variety is black. A slight annulating with lighter of some of its fur, tinges it a little with rusty, but the general color is glossy black. Brownish beneath, but there almost black.

50. S. Carolinensis Gm.-Gray and Black Squirrel.\* Less frequent

than the Fox Squirrel. Both Gray and Black found in Kansas.

51. Tamias striatus Linn.—Chipmunk. Striped Squirrel.\* Rare. Found along edges of timber beside grain fields.

52. Spermophilus Franklinii Sabine.—Gray Gopher.\* Not common. 53. S. tridecem-lineatus Mitchell.—Striped Gopher. Prairie Squirrel.\*

Frequent.

54. Pteromys volucella Pallas.—Flying Squirrel\* Occasional in timber. 55. Cynomys ludovicianus Ord.—Prairie Dog.\* Common in western

- 55. Cynomys ludovicianus Ord.—Prairie Dog.\* Common in western parts of the State. Said by Prof. Mudge to be dying out very fast for some unknown reason.
  - 56. Arctomys monax Linn.—Woodchuck. Ground Hog.\* Rare.

## HYSTRICIDÆ.

57. Erethizon dorsatus var. epizanthus Brandt.—Porcupine. Allen. Found sparingly in western parts of the State.

#### LEPORIDÆ.

58. Lepus sylvaticus Schreb.—Gray Rabbit.\* Abundant. Destructive to orchards and gardens. Its flesh counted good eating.

59. L. campestris Bach.—Prairie Hare. Allen. Identified in the cen-

tral parts of the state.

60. L. callotis Wagler.—Jackass Rabbit.\* Common in western parts of the State.

#### DIDELPHIDÆ.

61. Didelphys Virginianus Shaw.—Opossum.\* Not rare in eastern parts of the State.

<sup>\*</sup> Specimens marked \* in Baker University Cabinet.